and thus projected to surge ahead of the working employees. The entire pensionary charges on Railways are met out of the "Railway Pension Fund", which is funded internally by the Railways.

Rail Track from Udhampur to Baramula

2602. MIRZA ABDUL RASHID: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have approved and declared National Project for construction of Rail-Track from Udhampur to Baramula, Kashmir *via* Katra;

(b) if so, the amount allocated in the Rail-Budget for its construction and by when it would be completed; and

(c) the progress, till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The anticipated cost of the project is Rs. 3244 crores. An amount of Rs. 400 crores has been allocated for this work during 2002-2003 for which approval has been sought in the Supplementary Budget. The work is planned to be completed during 2007-2008.

(c) Earthwork, bridges, tunnelling and land acquisition is in various stages of progress between Katra- Udhampur and Qazigund-Baramula sections. Details construction survey is being taken up between Katra-Qazigund section.

Train Halt at Khurja Junction

2603. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Super fast train No. 2558, which departs from New Delhi for Muzaffarpur *via* Khurja and Aligarh, does not halt at Khurja junction;

(b) if so, the reasons therfor;

(c) whether Government have any plan under consideration, to provide halt to the above train at Khurja junction; and

(d) by when the final decision in this regard would be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The stoppage has not been found justified.

(c) No, sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Unmanned level crossings

2604. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR:
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court had given a directive to the Railways in 1997, to manned all the level-crossings;

(b) if so, the details of the directives;

(c) the number of level crossings manned during the last 10 years year-wise and State-wise;

(d) whether it is a fact that about 23,000 level crossings across the country are still unmanned; and

(e) if so, the reasons for not implementing the Supreme Court's directive to manned all level crossings, to prevent accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (e) Do not arise.

(c) A statement is attached (*See* below).

(d) there are about 20291 unmanned level crossings (excluding 'D' class cattle crossings) on Indian Railways.